

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Continuation of:)

International Patent Application No.)
PCT/IE00/00097)

Inventors: David VALE et al.)

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned)

Filed: January 14, 2002)

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

For: RETRIEVAL DEVICE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231
BOX: PATENT APPLICATIONS

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and cited in the international search report. Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or the translation of the non-English documents, enclosed is an English-language international search report from the

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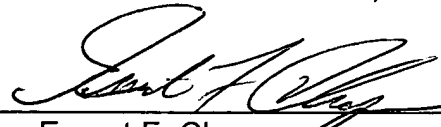
European Patent Office in the PCT international application, from which this U.S. application is derived, citing these documents and setting forth the relevance thereof.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 14, 2002

By: 
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Enclosures
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	08157.0018	Serial No.	
Applicant	David VALE et al.		
Filing Date	January 14, 2002	Group:	

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
	5,593,394	1/14/97	Kanesaka et al.	604	282	
	5,011,488	4/30/91	Ginsburg	606	159	
	4,927,426	5/22/90	Dretler	606	128	
	4,611,594	9/16/86	Grayhack et al.	128	328	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
	Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
/	WO97/17021	5/15/97	WIPO			Abstract
/	2 616 666	12/23/88	France			No
	WO97/17914	5/22/97	WIPO			
	WO99/20335	4/29/99	WIPO			
	WO97/03810 5	2/6/97	WIPO			
/	WO98/30265	7/16/98	WIPO			
	0 827 756 A1 7	3/11/98	Europe			
/	WO00/44428	8/3/00	WIPO			
	WO98/39053 9	9/11/98	WIPO			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce